Graduate Council Minutes
Thursday, December 6, 2012
3:30 p.m., Provost’s Conference Room

Members Present: Paul Madden, Valerie Myers, Debra Scurlock, Ken Carlson, Christine Raber, Hannah Conn, Mark Moore, Tim Scheurer, Jim Kadel, Guest Krista Maxson

1. **Council Photograph for Website**

2 & 3. **Approval of Agenda 12-6-12 and Minutes of 10-11-12**
Motion to approve, Ken, second by Chris, agenda and minutes approved.

4. **Update on Meeting with President Morris**
Paul reported on some of the points made in their meeting and led a group discussion.

5 & 7. **RACGS Meeting update/Revised Program Approval Guidelines document**
Paul reviewed the points from his meeting that are listed on the Agenda and also passed out the latest draft of OBR’s *Guidelines and Procedures for Review and Approval of Graduate Degree Programs.* As a committee, we need to keep these guidelines in mind when we're vetting proposals from SSU, so all should review the document.

6. **MS in Mathematics Preliminary Degree Proposal (PDP)**
The complete preliminary proposal has been submitted and we're receiving responses to it now. Deadline for comment is January 7.

8. **Update on Application for Graduate Faculty Status**
Paul and Susan will review the application (again) to go with the CBA.

9. **Potential support for further graduate program development**
Paul reported that there may be future additional state funding to support development of graduate programs in STEM areas.

10. **Math Course Proposals** MATH5200, MATH5300, MATH5555, MATH5700, MATH5800
Krista said these are the last 5 courses to review for the proposed MS in Math, and then answered questions about capstone options, course numbering, texts and other minor issues. Motion to approve all 5 courses with minor edits by Ken, second by Chris. Courses approved.

11. **Graduate Student Concerns (Valerie Myers)**
Valerie pointed out that several issues are affecting the enrollment in our master's degree programs and it will be important to reduce problems that grad students face in order to increase retention. Teaching licensure no longer requires a master’s degree and the field is becoming more competitive, especially from online programs. She gave examples to illustrate the graduate student concerns listed on today's agenda and led a discussion of ways to eliminate them.

Minutes submitted by Susan Montavon.